



Best Management Practices (BMPs) For Fluid Minerals – Part 3

REDUCING IMPACTS TO VISUAL RESOURCES

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Use BMPs to Enhance: Visual Resource Management

Typical BMPs May Include:

- Repeating Elements of Form, Line, Color, & Texture in the Landscape to Reduce Contrast
- Proper Siting or Location of Roads & Well Pads
- Vegetative Manipulation
- Proper Selection of Structures
- Reducing Unnecessary Disturbance
- Reclamation/Restoration

Color Selection

Goal: Minimize the visual **CONTRAST** with the surrounding landscape.



Typical “**Desert Tan**” facilities stand out in sharp contrast to the vegetated background, even dormant vegetation.

Right color – Wrong Shade?

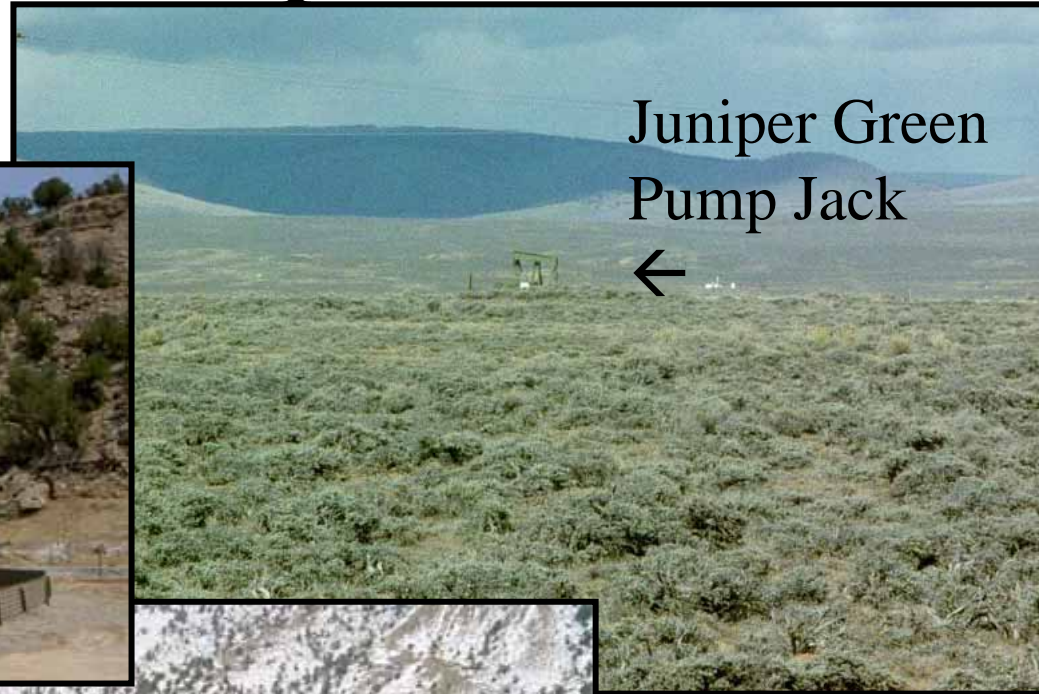


Repeat Landscape Color

Shale Green
Tanks



Juniper Green
Pump Jack



*However, working
safety edges may have
to be painted orange.



Dark, Juniper
Green Pump
Jack Partially
Screened
By Trees

Color Uniformity

Paint everything on the site the same color.

Lighter surfaces usually contrast and are highly noticeable.



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Standard Environmental Colors

The “Standard Environmental Color Chart” is merely a starting point. Experiment to find the best colors for blending facilities with the background.



Photo Simulations

Use Simulations in:

Public Meetings, Environmental Analysis, Planning



Simulated Tanks





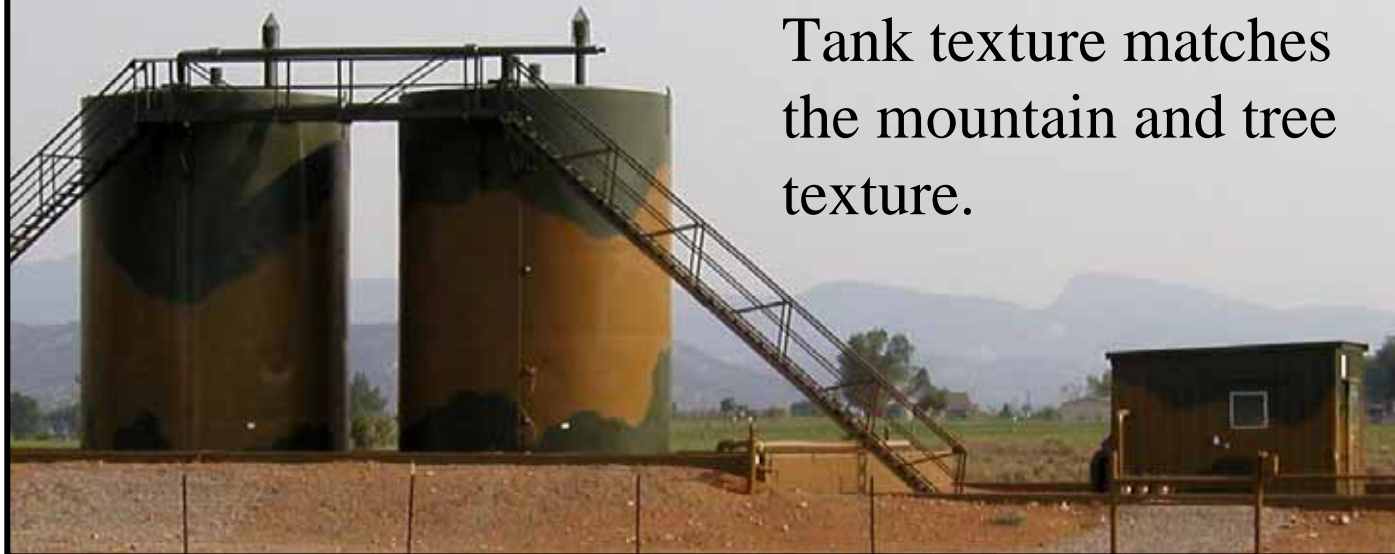
The Difference Color Can Make

There are two towers.

Find the “Juniper Green”
tower.

Repeat Landscape Texture

2 Cell Towers



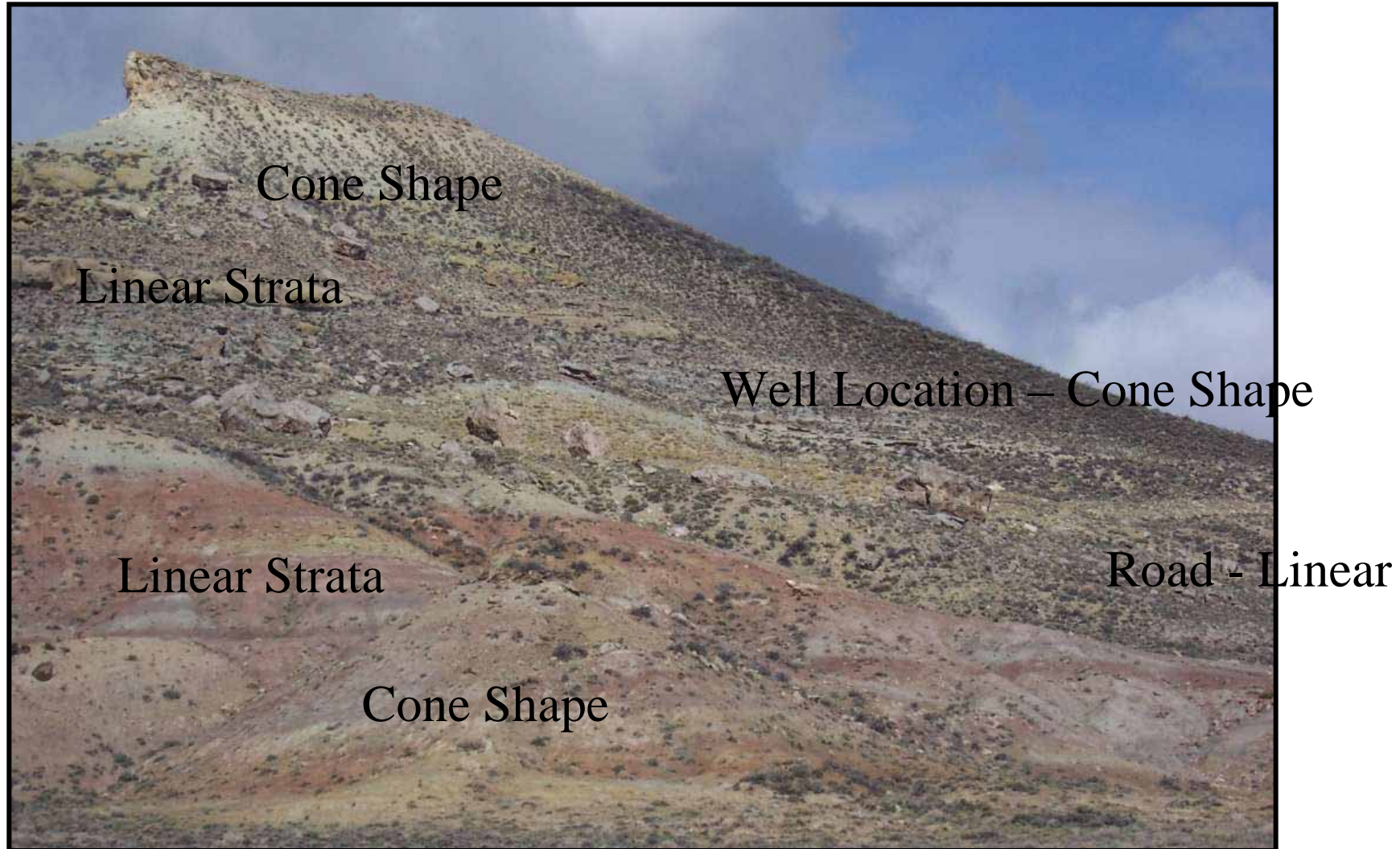
Tank texture matches
the mountain and tree
texture.

Repeat Landscape Line

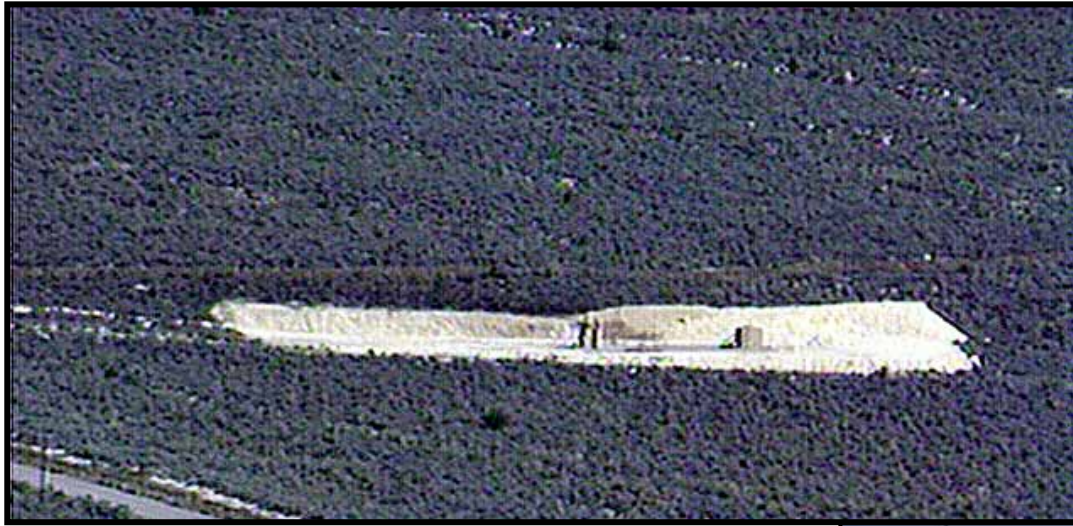
The hill bends; the old ditch bends; and the road now bends to match.



Repeat Landscape Form



Repeat Vegetation Patterns



Good – Well location
shape matches shape of
surrounding open areas.

Not So Good – Location
should be reshaped,
edges roughened,
and site revegetated.



Avoid Ridgtops and Hilltops

- Skylined features tend to stand out & draw attention.



Tall Tanks on Ridgeline



Low Structures

Submersible Pump



Low-Profile
Tanks in a low
area, (not on
the ridgeline).



Ultra-Low Structures



Buried Wellhead

Screening Structures

Natural Gas Compressor in a
High Value Suburban Area



Failed Attempt to Hide a
Pump Jack Along a Scenic
State Highway



Housekeeping

Remove Trash, Junk, and Other Materials not in Current Use



Bury Utilities

- In visually sensitive areas, flowlines should be buried, preferably in or adjacent to the roadway.



Reduce Unnecessary Disturbance

If a winding two-track road and smaller well pad are appropriate for the site, visual contrast will be greatly reduced.



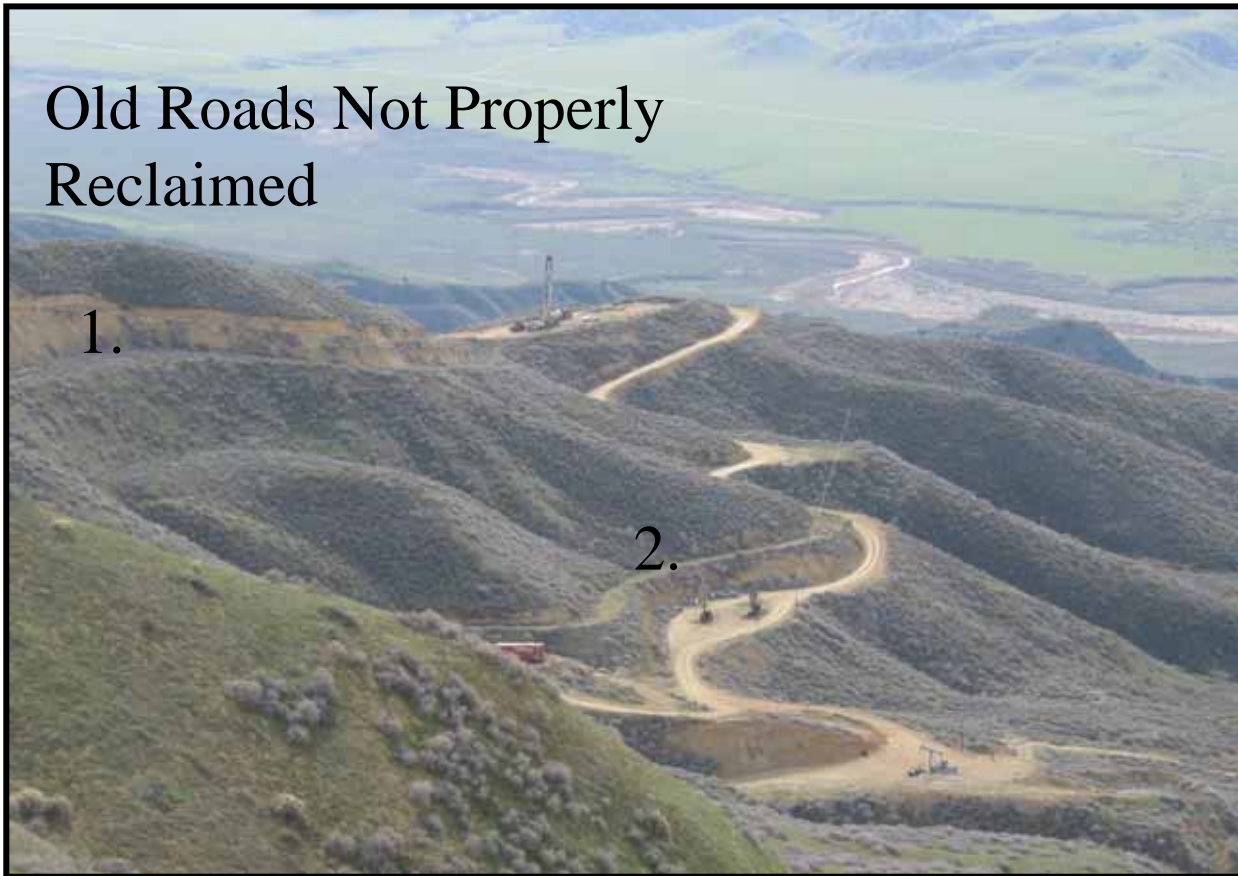
Roads: Location & Mitigation

- Reuse an old road or pad if possible, but only if it is in a **safe** and environmentally sound location.
- If you create a new road, recontour and revegetate the old road it replaces.

Old Roads Not Properly Reclaimed

1.

2.



Duplicate roads.

The old road was never properly reclaimed.

Reduce Unnecessary Disturbance

- Avoid locating roads on steep slopes.
- Where possible, follow the contours of the land to reduce disturbance.



Highly visible linear disturbance with large cut and fill slopes.

Roads: Follow the Contour of the Land



Avoid Large Pads on Steep Slopes



Placement of well pad in valley bottom avoids steep slopes.

Interim Reclamation



Good intermediate Reclamation minimizes the visual impact of development.



Bare Ground = High Contrast

Unfinished Reclamation

It may have some vegetation on it, but left unreclaimed, you will always **see** the change to the landform and vegetation.



Abandoned Roads
Not Reclaimed Properly

Maintaining a Scenic Open Range

